



INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN COLOMBIA

Creating employment and income generation opportunities

Colombia

Nine job centres in eight cities of Colombia are offering **business counseling, entrepreneurship training, and career opportunities** particularly to internally displaced persons, women, indigenous people and persons with disabilities.

The centres are dynamic spaces where the public, private and academic sectors interact, offering a one-stop citizen service to expand the opportunities that guarantee their productive economic inclusion. These centres provide guidance and comprehensive services to strengthen capabilities and expand access to employment, self-employment and entrepreneurship opportunities. The project is generating an **enabling and innovative environment for economic inclusion**.



"I went to the centre "Oportunidades." They began to teach me about employment opportunities, and how to work towards them. It was something that caught my attention and filled me with motivation. I was offered this job, and I am thankful to be working here at the recycling center."

Luis Enrique Pelufo



"Almost all of us have been denied loans because we do not have proper credit. The programme guided me and took me to a microcreditor in order to secure a loan. The programme helps one's perspective, and to draw up a business plan. When you have a business plan, you have a vision for the future."

Maria-Eugenia Palacio



"I had not been able to find work for around a year and a half. Raising a family isn't easy when there is no money. But this opportunity was given to me, and this programme helped me change my life. Through the programme I have been trained as a construction supervisor. I am now working as a warehouse assistant for an important company, called CBI. Now my life has changed. I'm another person. I am earning money, and my family is happy. And this makes me feel very happy that I am moving forward."

Darwin Aguilar

The ROK-UNDP MDG Trust Fund has contributed \$17.85 million towards nine country projects and two global projects that seek to improve livelihoods of the poor and vulnerable.

Objective:

Enhance the capacities of job centres to promote economic inclusion at the local level.

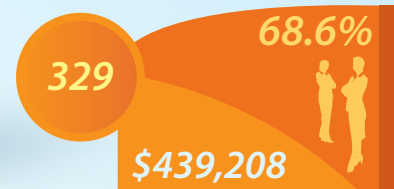
Results:



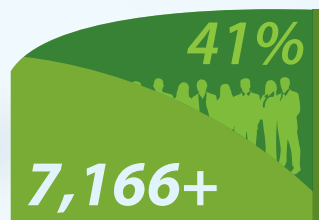
The centres have so far trained 32,512 people.



3,398 jobs have been created.



329 microcredits, totaling USD 439,208, have been disbursed. 68.6% of them were provided to women.



7,166 business plans were developed. 41% of them have been funded.



252 improvement plans have been developed in the business units for efficient use of the credits.

It is noteworthy that these results are attributable both to the efforts of local actors - mainly governments and Chambers of Commerce who fund 80% of the operation - and to the national government, donors and the private sector who have joined resources to enhance the results, such as the ROK-UNDP MDG Trust Fund (Date: 2009-June 2013). The microcredit funds and the specialized consultancy is attributable specifically to the ROK-UNDP MDG Trust Fund (Date: June 2013).

For more information:
www.undp.org/rokgfund

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